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July 7, 2005

Works starts on \$86M Totem Lake overpass

By [JOURNAL STAFF](#)

The Washington State Department of Transportation and contractor Max J. Kuney Construction have started building the \$86 million Totem Lake direct-access ramps and freeway station in Kirkland.



Image courtesy of WSDOT

The project is one of nine direct-access ramp projects being funded primarily by Sound Transit.

Work involves building a new overpass across Interstate 405 at Northeast 128th Street, and new HOV on- and off-ramps in the I-405 median. The overpass will provide a new route across I-405, while the left-lane ramps will allow carpools and buses to enter and exit the freeway without weaving through three lanes of traffic.

WSDOT predicts that eliminating the merge will save time for buses and ease congestion for all vehicles.

Crews began installing erosion control devices around the site last week. A kick-off ceremony will be held tomorrow on the south side of the Kingsgate park-and-ride at 13001 116th Way N.E. in Kirkland. The event begins at 1 p.m., with U.S. Senator Patty Murray, State Transportation Secretary Doug MacDonald and Kirkland Mayor Mary-Alyce Burleigh scheduled to appear.

WSDOT and David Evans and Associates are doing preliminary engineering, final design and construction management.

The ramps and bridge are expected to open in the summer of 2006.

Sound Transit urges guests to arrive on time for the ceremony by taking a bus.





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